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ST. JOHN, N. B., SATURDAY, MAR. 23.

Subscribers who do not receive their paper Saturday morning are requested to communicate with the office.—Tel. 95.

HANDSOME GIFTS.

A Boston paper calls attention to the fact that the gift of \$5,000,000 which ANDREW CARNEGIE tendered for the benefit of the employees of the CARNEGIE Company as being not only incomparably the most magnificent gift ever made by the multi millionaire steel magnate, and as probably the greatest single act of pecuniary beneficence ever performed by one man at any time in any part of the world.

Coming, as this latest and greatest of CARNEGIE'S gifts does, as a memento of his retirement from active business life, it serves a double purpose. It sets an example which can be followed with immeasurable credit, to themselves as well as benefit to others, by all industrial conquerors whose wealth rivals his.

There is no need at this time for debating the question whether, and if at all, how far, the benevolent use of great riches can justify questionable methods in their acquisition. It is enough to say, on that head, that ANDREW CARNEGIE has accumulated his many millions of dollars in accordance with the commonly accepted rules of business competition.

So far as ANDREW CARNEGIE'S astounding success may have been owing to an industrial system which is radically wrong, because capable of being made the means of monopolies that are a menace to the public welfare, the remedy is not to rail at him, but to reform the system.

On the other hand, so far as his benevolent use of his colossal accumulations is in contrast with the selfish use which other monopolists make of their gettings, CARNEGIE'S example deserves to be held up, heralded, lauded, and used by preachers, lay and clerical, as a sermon on the text "Go thou and do likewise."

PARLIAMENTARY CRISES.

European politics have been recently perturbed by parliamentary crises in Austria, Italy and Spain.

In Austria the crisis has, in fact, become chronic. The trouble is the old one of race feuds between the Czechs and the Germans. The new Reichsrath is as unmanageable as were its predecessors. It transacts no business; its sessions are attended with wild disorder and occasional personal encounters between deputies.

In Italy the troubles of the ministry began with a strike at Genoa, and with the dissolution by the government of the board of labor of that city. The ministry tried to pursue a moderate course, but when the matter came up in parliament, those who thought that the government had gone too far joined with those who thought it had gone far enough, and the ministry fell before this curious coalition.

complaints of excessive taxation, and discontent with the burdens imposed by the Triple Alliance, all had their share in bringing on the crisis.

The first two causes operated in Spain also to produce the riotous demonstrations which attended the marriage of the king's sister. To them were added a hatred of the Jesuit and other orders as representing accumulated property and political influence, and a cordial dislike of the Duke of Caserta, the prince's father.

The simultaneous occurrence of these crises is suggestive. Hasty generalizations are unsafe. It would be as unjust to argue from these crises that parliamentary institutions are a failure as it would be to suppose that the municipal governments in the United States has failed because some city governments are corrupt.

Aldermen are scarce.

To be an alderman in Fredericton does not seem to be a very popular thing that is judging from election. This year all the board with one exception was returned by acclamation, showing that there are not many who desire the honorable position.

Trinidad's Pitch Lake.

The most interesting place in Trinidad, the largest of the group of Windward Islands, or Lesser Antilles, is the famous Pitch Lake, from which comes a large part of the world's supply of asphaltum.

The lake is a floating mass of asphaltum sealed by narrow channels of clear water, with a few straggling islands covered with thin, low shrubs. At the center, the fountain of all the foulness, the pitch is at boiling heat, and covered with yellow and white sulphurous foam, upon which are floating innumerable bubbles filled with loathsome gas.

The supply for shipment is chopped from the surface, where it has been hardened and dried by the evaporation of moisture; but like ice on the ponds of the frozen zones, the quality cut away during the day is always replaced during the night for some action of nature keeps forcing the unsightly substance out of the earth.

The Pitch Lake is a mystery which scientists have discussed for many years. Sir Walter Raleigh wrote the first account of it in 1595, when he landed there on his voyage in search of the El Dorado and the land of the Amazons. Humboldt gave a good deal of study to the phenomenon, and declared that the Pitch Lake is "a constantly aggregating mass formed from the cosmical gaseous fluid"—which seems to settle it.

A Warning in the Air.

Mr. L. E. Dudley, the United States consul at Vancouver, reports that experiments are being made on the coast of British Columbia with an automatic system for warning ships of their approach to dangerous rocks and shoals when the weather is so bad that neither lights nor fog-horns can avail.

Bacon—What's the matter with our naval people, anyway? Egbert—Why so? 'Way, Dewey gave his house away and now Sampson's given himself away.'

Chairs Re-seated Once, Spins, Perforated, Dwell, 17 Waterloo.

VERSES OF YESTERDAY AND TODAY

The Song of the Drums. We are naught but a little brass kettle, With a tight little cover at top— Just a circle of sheepskin and metal And a pair of quick drumsticks a hop—



News of the Passing Week

The Duke and Duchess of Cornwall were at Gibraltar on Wednesday. Baden Powell's Canadian troops are expected to sail from Halifax next Tuesday. Gen'l Botha has refused to make peace and the war in South Africa will continue.

Ald. McKendrick, of Fredericton, neglected to take the oath of office and thereby lost his seat. Gen'l Harrison was buried on Sunday last. Pres. McKinley was among those who attended the last obsequies.

Another big blizzard raged in Marinette Wis., Tuesday, and over a foot of snow has fallen. Trains are late and traffic generally is blocked. Andrew Carnegie has been suggested for Mayor of Greater New York by Abraham Gruber, Republican leader of 21st Assembly district.

Montreal has had another big fire, loss estimated at a quarter of a million. The wholesale druggist supply house of Leeming Miles & Co., was completely destroyed with its big stock.

Early in the week the leader of the opposition in the Canadian Parliament laid down the policy of the Conservative party accentuated in its application to the conditions now affecting the country.

Controlleur Coler called at the mayor's office in New York Saturday to confer with the mayor regarding the gift of Andrew Carnegie. The men were closeted for some time.

A disease has appeared in an epidemic form in a part of the mountain district in the west part of the town of Windsor, Vt., from which six deaths have occurred within a short time.

Terry McGovern, featherweight champion pugilist, who is matched to fight Oscar Gardner before the Twentieth Century Athletic club at San Francisco on April 30, said in New York Sunday that it is his intention to meet all comers as soon as he goes to the Pacific coast.

[Continued on Page Eight.]